08-13555-mg Doc 22236 Filed 11/07/11 Entered 11/16/11 18:11:30 Main Document Pg 1 of 25

CHAU Sers

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

RETURN DATE: 4/26/12

.

In re:

Chapter 11 Case No.

LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS INC., et al., :

08-13555 (JMP)

Debtors.:

(Jointly Administered)

NOTICE OF MOTION

SIRS/MADAM:

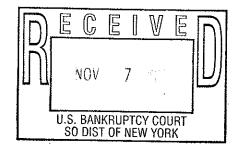
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, THAT THE UNDERSIGNED, WILLIAM KUNTZ,III WHO APPEARS HERE PRO SE WILL MOVE UPON THE ANNEXED PAPERS AND THOSE FURTHER PAPERS THAT MAY BE LODGED WITH THE COURT CLERK UPON THE $26^{\rm TH}$ OF APRIL, $2012\ @10$ AM IN THE FORENOON FOR AN ORDER VACATING OR MODIFYING THAT CERTAIN ORDER/DECISION OF JUDGE PECK HANDED DOWN ON THE $10^{\rm TH}$ OF NOV, 2010 WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN CLAIMS OF MOVANT.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, THAT THE COURT MIGHT RULE WITH OR WITHOUT CONSIDERING PAPERS IN OPPOSITION AND THAT THE COURT MAY, IN IT'S OWN JUDGEMENT MADE ANOTHER DATE CERTAIN FOR A HEARING OR RETURN DATE FOR THIS MOTION.

I THANK YOU IN ADVANCE,

MILIAM KUNTZ, III INDIA ST PO BOX 1801 NANTUCKET, MASS 02554-1801 507-775-9717

NANTUCKET ISLAND, MASS Nov 4, 2011



FURTHER, AS THE COURT MAY RECALL AND AS REFLECTED IN THE TRANSCRIPT MOVANT HAS PREVIOUSLY OFFERED AN EXHIBIT TO THE COURT IN A PRIOR CLAIM OBJECTION HEARING.

TRANSCRIPT OF MARCH 17, 2010 PAGE 108-109 EX 2.

REGRETFULLY, A REVIEW SHOWS THAT TRANSCRIPT DID NOT CAPTURE THE COURTS EXACT WORDS SPURNING THE OFFERING OF MY EXHIBIT. CLEARLY, IT IS INCONSISTENT TO SAY THE LEAST TO ACCEPT PAPERS FROM MR WAISMAN BUT NOT FROM MOVANT. FURTHER, MOVANT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO DISCOVER ANY UNDERPINNING IN THE FEDERAL RULES THAT PROVIDES FOR 'EVIDENTARY HEARINGS' ASIDE FROM WHAT IS THE CUSTOM OF THIS COURT.

IN WORKING BACKWARDS FROM A PREDISPOSITION TO FIND AGAINST MOVANT THE COURT NEVER ADDRESSED THE CENTRAL AND MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE.

WHETHER THE \$3.5 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE CASH ESCROW IN GRAND UNION WAS IN FACT PROPERTY OF THIS ESTATE. WHILE THE COURT WENT TO GREAT LENGTH TO ADDRESS THE MARTIN ACT, THE TERMS OF THE ESCROW DIDN'T REQUIRE MOVANT TO INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS HIMSELF, ONLY THAT THERE BE A SHOWING THAT THE FUNDS IN QUESTION WERE 'TAINTED' SO TO SPEAK. FURTHER, AS REFLECTED IN THE ATTACHED LETTER CLAIMANT HAD ALREADY DRAWN THIS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN MAY OF 2001, SEVEN FULL YEARS BEFORE THIS DEBTOR FILED CH 11. AS THE COURT MAY FURTHER NOTE, COPIES WERE PROVIDED TO THE NEW YORK STATE BANKING DEPT AND THE RESPECT CEO'S OF THE AWOL INDENTURE TRUSTEES. EX 3

THERE IS NO ORDER THAT MOVANT IS AWARE OF BY JUDGE WINFIELD WHICH IN FACT AUTHORIZED THIS. EVEN IF THERE WERE SUCH AN ORDER, IT WOULD HAVE CLEARLY BEEN OBTAINED BY A CALCULATED MISRESENTATION TO THE COURT.

NOR HAS THE COURT EVER ADDRESSED THE OBVIOUS PROBLEM OF THE CO-COUNSEL ROLE OF WEIL, GOTSHAL IN GRAND UNION'S 3RD CH 11 WHICH IS SET FORTH IN THE LETTER OPINION² ALREADY ON FILE WITH THE COURT. THE OBVIOUS IS OVERLOOKED. WEIL, GOTSHAL HAS A VESTED INTEREST IN KEEPING THE LID ON THIS. AS WEIL, GOTSHAL HAS COLLECTED MORE IN FEE'S IN THIS AND THE GM CASE, THAT THE

 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ THE GRAND UNION COMPANY-VS-AMERICE- JUNE 10. 2005 WILLIAM J MARTINI USDJNEW JERSEY.

ECONOMY OF MOST SMALL COUNTRIES, AND MOST COUNTIES AND CITIES IN THE USA, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THEY WOULD NOT WISH TO HAVE IT LEARNED THAT THEY WERE INVOLVED IN THE HIJACKING OF THIS ESCROW.

THE WEIL, GOTSHAL ROLE IN GRAND UNION IS WELL DOCUMENTED IN THE MAINSTREAM. YET NOT OF THIS COURTS CLERKS BOTHERED TO FIND OUT THIS INFORMATION AND DRAW IT TO THE COURT'S ATTENTION.

THE CONFLICT IS OBVIOUS. EX 4. <u>Attorney Fee Application Cover Sheet of Weil, Gotshal June 24, 1998</u>

ACCORDING, THE ONLY CONCLUSION A REAONABLE MIND CAN DRAW IS THAT THE MOTION AND PRIOR RESISTANCE HAS BEEN MADE IN BAD FAITH IN ORDER TO PROTECT WEIL'S LUCRATIVE BANKRUPTCY TRADE.\

IT IS STANDARD WEIL, GOTSHAL TRADECRAFT. DENY, CONFUSE AND ATTACK.

FOR EXAMPLE, ON MAY 23, 2007 CLAIMANT SENT A CERTIFIED LETTER EX 5 TO THE DEBTOR SOME 18 MONTHS PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THIS CASE. NO ANSWER WAS EVER SENT TO THIS.

A WEEK PRIOR, CLAIMANT HAD WRITTEN GRAND UNION HOLDING AND GRAND UNION CAPITAL C/ THE AGENCY ADDRESS IN DELAWARE AND ALSO IN KEENE, NH WHERE THE LEGAL DEPT OF C&S OPERATES. C&S OUTBID A&P FOR GRAND UNION COMPANY'S ASSETS IN THE NJ CASE BEFORE JUDGE WINFIELD. EX 6. AGAIN NO RESPONSE.

I CANNOT RECALL THE NUMBER OF TIMES MR WAISMAS SCOFFED AT EVEN THE IDEA THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN ESCROW. IN ROUND NUMBERS OVER THE TIME CLAIMANT APPEARED IN THIS CASE WEIL, GOTSHAL HAS CAUSED AT LEAST 16 EXPRESS MAIL'S TO BE SENT TO CLAIMANT. THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE FEDERAL EXPRESS.

FURTHER, AT ONE CRITICAL JUNCTURE, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT THE EMAIL RULE DOES NOT APPLY TO CLAIMANT, WEIL, GOTSHAL SENT A HUGE DOCUMENT BY EMAIL PERHAPS THE NIGHT BEFORE THE HEARING, WHEN ANY REASONABLE PERSON WOULD KNOW THAT CLAIMANT HAD ALREADY LEFT NANTUCKET AND AS HIS CUSTOM WAS RIDING THE DISCOUNT CHINESE BUS *FUNG WA* TO ARRIVE IN TIME.

THERE WAS AN AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BUT DESPITE REPEATED REQUESTS THE NUMBER OF THAT HAS NEVER BEEN PROVIDED AND THE US POSTAL SERVICE HAS NO RECORD OF IT BEING TENDERED.

http://google.brand.edgaronline.com/EFX_dll/EDGARpro.dll?FetchFilingHTML1?ID=1157616&SessionID=RRKjHS CVNXcyrl7

http://www.infirmation.com/bboard/clubs-fetch-msg.tcl?msg_id=000V46 content redacted except for this relevant line.

* Weil bankruptcy dept is better if you are their debtor client (except for Grand Union which Weil's Bk dept is taking through chp 11 for about the third time in 4 years), but it is not better if you are a junior associate where you will be buried under more boring debtor side work than any other BK dept and you will have a reputation for being part of a dept that most of NY bk lawyers despise (and admittedly respect at the same time).

The auction was held at the New York City offices of Grand Union's attorneys, Weil Gotshal & Manges.

http://alb.merlinone.net/mweb/wmsql.wm.request?oneimage&imageid=6049805

http://lopucki.law.ucla.edu/Professional_Fees/Fee%20applications%20and%20orders/Grand%20Union/Weil%20Gotshal%20Final%20Application%20dkt%20149.pdf
SO WHILE CLEARLY WEIL GOTSHAL HAD IT'S HAND ON THE TILLER OF GRAND UNION THIS COURT ALLOWED WEIL, GOTSHAL TO PROSECUTE OBJECTIONS TO MY CLAIMS. HAD THIS COURT HAD ANY COMPETENT STAFF IN THE FORM OF LAW CLERKS, THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED LONG AGO, BUT IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT BEING A LAW CLERK IN THIS COURT IS A CAREER STEPPING STONE AND FASHIONING AN UNFAVORABLE OPINION/DECISION WOULD BE MOST UNWELCOME TO SAY THE LEAST IN CERTAIN HR DEPTS OF BIGLAW.

CONCLUSION

I WOULD LIKE TO BE THE COURT'S INDULGENCE FOR THE CUT AND PASTE WAY THIS IS PUT TOGETHER. I HAVE HAD TO OVERCOME MANY GLITCHES AND MOST OF THIS WAS COMPOSED INTO EMAIL AND THEN TRANSFERRED ONTO WORD, BUT SOME COMPUTERS HAD OLDER VERSIONS. I DO NOT OWN A 'MODERN' COMPUTER, THE LAST BEING A OLD DELL I PURCHASED WHEN I WAS GOING TO MIDDLEBURY LONG AGO. AND THAT COMPUTER IS SITTING IN A CLOSET UNUSED. FURTHER, I DO NOT HAVE AN ESTABLISHED MODERN OFFICE FULLY EQUIPTED WITH STATE OF THE ART SYSTEMS LIKE WEIL, WHICH IS SUPPORTED BY LAVISH¹ FEE'S AWARDS IN THIS AND OTHER MEGA-CASES.

EVEN IF THIS COURT WERE REVERSE IT'S DECISION AND ALLOW MOVANT'S CLAIMS IN FULL, THEY WOULD AMOUNT TO LESS THAN 1% OF WEIL FEE'S TO DATE.

AS THE COURT NOTED, THERE IS NO LOVE LOST BETWEEN MOVANT AND CLAIMANT. HOWEVER, IF CLAIMANT IS CORRECT, AND WEIL, AS CO-COUNSEL IN GRAND UNION HAD A HAND IN THE DIVERSION OF THE WAYWARD CASH ESCROW, IT HAS MUCH TO FEAR IF THIS MISCHIEF BECOMES COMMON KNOWLEDGE.

THIS COURT MADE LIGHT OF MOVANTS SUGGESTION ABOUT CALLING WARREN BUFFETT AND OTHERS TO EXPLAIN THE UNDERWRITING OF GRAND UNION BY

¹ Apr 15, 2009 – In the largest quarterly **fee** request ever made by lawyers ... **Weil's Lehman**

² Leading the way once again among the law firms was lead counsel <u>Weil, Gotshal & Manges</u>, which collected \$7.7 million, increasing its haul in the case to \$326.6 million. http://amlawdaily.typepad.com/amlawdaily/2011/08/bankruptcy-files-2.html

GOLDMAN TO THE BENEFIT OF SOLOMON BROTHERS. THE COURT SUGGESTED THAT MOVANT RETAIN COUNSEL. THAT IS A SELF-SERVING STATEMENT EMPTY IN MEANING. MOVANT WOULD HAVE TO BE AS RICH AS MR BUFFETT TO ENGAGE COUNSEL. MOVANT DOES NOT KNOW ONE LAWYER, WHO IS EITHER STILL ALIVE OR NOT TAKEN ROBES WHO WOULD EVEN CONSIDER THIS WITHOUT A VERY HIGH LEVEL OF COMPENSATION.

TO QUOTE THE LATE PROFESSOR ROBERT MANLEY³, HARVARD GRADUATE AND NOTED MIDWEST LITIGATOR. Another Manleyism: "I will defend you to your last dollar." ACCORDINGLY AS THE 2 TRUSTEE'S OF THESE NOTE ARE AWOL, THE BURDEN OF PLOTTING A COURSE OF RECOVERY HAS FALLEN UPON MOVANT'S BROW.

IN BRUSHING ASIDE THE REQUEST FOR A HEARING, THE COURT IN EFFECT HANDED A LESS THAN CANDID WEIL A UNEARNED VICTORY. IN THE MANY MONTHS THAT MOVANT HAS APPEARED BEFORE THE COURT, THE REPEATED THEME WAS IN EFFECT THAT BECAUSE A JUDGE IN OKLAHOMA HAD SAID BAD THINGS THAT MUST BE TRUE HERE. HOWEVER, AN CLEAR VISION OF WHAT EACH CASE STANDS FOR WAS NEVER CONDUCTED.

FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE OLKAHOMA CASE, MOVANT WAS A DEBTOR OF KEY
BANK OF NEW YORK, WHO HAD AQUIRED HIS CREDIT CARD BALANCE FROM
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. IN SILICON GRAPHICS, MOVANT WAS ASSERTING
A DERIVITAVE CLAIM OF A COMPUTER COMPANY.

HERE, MOVANT IS THE HOLDER IN DUE COURSE OF SECURITIES, PURCHASED ON

³ Professor Manley's Firm represented Movant in Litigation in Ohio. At that time, Peter J Walsh, Esq (now Judge Walsh in the Bankruptcy Court in Delaware) was the co-defendant as the Trustee. See <u>City of Dayton,Ohio-vs-Kuntz,et al.</u> As the Court is now aware, Judge Walsh approved the Creation of the Cash Escrow in 1995. http://www.manleyburke.com/In-Memorium-Robert-E.-Manley

THE OPEN MARKET THRU HIS ACCOUNT @ BACHE, HALSEY, STUART⁴ ISSUED IN NEW YORK, FOR THE BENEFIT OF SOLOMON BROTHERS WHEN MR BUFFETT HAD REPLACED MR GUTFREUND⁵ AS ACTING CHAIRMAN AND SOLD GRAND UNION FOR UPWARDS OF \$1 BILLION IN SECURITIES WHICH FOR ALMOST ALL THOSE WHO PURCHASED THEM LOST THE ENTIRE INVESTMENT. THAT CLEARLY IS SOMETHING THAT THE MARTIN ACT COMTEMPLATES.

TO BE CANDID, MOVANT DID AND DOES NOT EXCEPT EITHER MR GURFREUND⁶ OR MR BUFFETT TO ACCEPT AN INVITATION TO TESTIFY. THE COURT COULD DRAW IT'S OWN CONCLUSION. HOWEVER, THE 2 LAWYERS, ARE UNDER THE COURT'S INDIRECT CONTROL AND GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF THE FIRST QUESTION AS TO IF THE CASH ESCROW IS IN FACT PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE SEEMS APPROPRIATE. MR. WAISMAN SEEMED TO SAY THAT JUDGE WINFIELD APPROVED THIS, YET WHAT IT APPARENTLY WAS < AND SOMETHING NEVER SHARED WITH EITHER MOVANT, THE US TRUSTEE OR COUNSEL TO THE CREDITORS COMMITTTEE> WAS THAT JUDGE WINFIELD DENIED LIFTING THE AUTOMATIC STAY, SOMETHING THIS COURT DID WITH RESPECT TO MOVANT ALMOST 3 YEARS AGO.

⁴ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halsey,_Stuart_%26_Co.

⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Gutfreund

⁶ http://www.observer.com/2011/10/the-wee-hours-occupy-easy-street/

ACCORDINGLY, MOVANT REQUESTS THE COURT VACATE THE ORDER AND DECIISON OF THE $10^{\rm TH}$ OF NOV, 2011 AND REINSTATE THE CLAIMS AND SUCH OTHER RELIEF AS MAY BE JUST AND EQUITABLE.

RESPECTFULLY

WILLIAM KUNTZ, III

INDIA ST

PO BOX 1801

NANTUCKET ISLAND, MASS 02554-1801

508-775-9717

NANTUCKET ISLAND, MASS Nov 4, 2011

	Page 1
1	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
3	Case Nos. 08-13555 (JMP)
Ì	Case Nos. 00-13333 (dis-
5	x
6	
7	In the Matter of:
8	THE WOLDINGS INC. et al.
9	LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS INC., et al.
10	
11	Debtors.
12	
13	United States Bankruptcy Court
14	
15	One Bowling Green
16	New York, New York
17	
18	October 27, 2010
19	10:07 AM
20	
21	BEFORE:
22	HON. JAMES M. PECK
23	U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE
2 4	\mathcal{H}'
25	

LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS INC., et al.

	Page 82
1	it belongs to him.
2	There simply is no basis for a claim, even asserted.
3	Kuntz was a creditor of Capital Corporation, an entity that's
4	been dissolved.
5	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
б	MR. KUNTZ: Your Honor, if I may point out, the order
7	that Mr. Waisman refers to has the second bankruptcy case, it's
8	a 1998 case, it's not the 2000 case.
9	So what he says that happened in the third case really
10	happened in the second case where Judge Winfield gave me my
11	security back. It's right here. It's case 98-27912. The
12	Raven Greenberg letter has got the 2000 case number 0039613.
13	So in essence he's putting the second case order forward saying
14	this is what happened in the third case. That's not the
15	exhibit.
16	MR. WAISMAN: That's inaccurate, Your Honor. The
17	order, on its face, says May 21, 2001.
18	MR. KUNTZ: I've never seen that order, Your Honor.
19	MR. WAISMAN: Here it is.
20	MR. KUNTZ: This is Your Honor
21	MR. WAISMAN: It was submitted with our papers.
22	MR. KUNTZ: Your Honor, we're already well into now
23	we're having an evidentiary hearing with a copy given to the
24	Court, which I've never seen, but he just held it up. That's
25	why I asked for the evidentiary hearing.

25

1

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Case Nos. 08-13555(JMP); 08-01420(JMP)(SIPA)

In the Matter of:

LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS INC., et al.

Debtors.

In the Matter of:

LEHMAN BROTHERS INC.

Debtor.

United States Bankruptcy Court

One Bowling Green

New York, New York

March 17, 2010

10:00 AM

BEFORE:

HON. JAMES M. PECK

U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

appropriate.

And it's important because my interest in Lehman's estate -- my stock -- I sold my stock when it was probably seventy dollars a share. The surplus money went on deposit with the State Comptroller's office. The escrow account, which Your Honor's heard endless about, came about before Judge Walsh in 1995. And somehow, I believe, it ended up in Lehman's hands. And that's my interest and that's why I filed proof of claim. And I've brought on my automatic stay request, not because of my own interest but because of what the State Comptroller requested me to do in order to collect funds that are already on deposit in the name, not only of Lehman Brothers, but in the name of Grand Union Capital Corp, of which I am a creditor.

Now, this -- to my respect therefore, my interest and, you know, we've been around and around for eighteen months and Lehman's been dragging out this old case from Oklahoma which I don't understand and when Your Honor spoke about the Wing Minibond case, I was a little bit concerned because my position is -- and I'm going to offer this if Your Honor will allow, is an exhibit to the hearing. The claim that I filed in the liquidation of HSBC Nassau, which is apparently not in this case, it went into liquidation and the time these -- my bonds were issued, Grand Union had business operations in the Bahamas. And if Your Honor would permit, I'll hand a copy

to --

THE COURT: You can hand a copy of that to anybody you like but I don't want a copy now.

MR. KUNTZ: No, I'd like to have one attached as an exhibit to the transcript.

THE COURT: No, I'm not -- this is not a court -- this is not germane to the fourth omnibus objection to claims, which has --

MR. KUNTZ: I'm simply trying to clarify my position, Your Honor. Otherwise, I'm going to look forward to another round of objections and Mr. Miller's already stated -- although he's left -- that he wants to challenge my standing, which I welcome. I very much would welcome a resolution to this because I've spent a lot of time at this. Your Honor's probably heard more than you care to from me, I'm sure.

MR. WAISMAN: If I could just confirm for Mr. Kuntz and Your Honor, the debtors are, at this point, not objecting to the substance of Mr. Kuntz's claims. I think he's agreed on the duplicate claims. He would like three claims to remain on the register. We have no problem with leaving those on the register, subject to all rights to review and object if appropriate.

And I think that resolves the issue here and if there is, later, on a -- an objection to the substance, we can address these issues at that time.

May 28,2001

#3

Rebecca Mullane, Esq-Assistant Attorney General Securities Prosecution Union 120 Broadway Mew York 10271

Re: Grand Union Capital Corp 0% Notes

Dear Ms Mullane:

A few weeks ago, I wrote to the AG's office on the subject of the Martin Act, which I understand your Office enforces. I have had two (2) form the local District Attorney could enforce the Martin Act, to date, I have not had a written response from them, despite having brought it up on several occasions over the last few years.

Last Monday, May 21, 2001 we had an Adjounred Hearing before Bankruptcy Judge Winfield in Newark, NJ in the 3rd Grand Union Co 11 Case. Without going into all the detail at this point, she gave me the green light to proceed, sans Grand Union Company at this point. I understand that the Bank Lender of Grand Union took in a nice Escrow Fund which had been outstanding from the first Grand Union Case in Delaware. Grand Union Capital was the former owner of Grand Union Company, left over from a LBO about 10 years ago.

The reason I am writing is that the respective Indenture Trustee's who are large banks, in effect, have refused to take those steps to protect my interests. In fact, despite the clear record made in Delaware, they refuse to even accept the fact that they are still the Trustee's for non-tendering Noteholders such as myself.

I thank you in advance, William Kuntz,III Bx 461,Lake Placid,NY 12946

cc:Alvin Narin, Esq., State Banking Dept, Albany, NY 12224 Mr Yoseff Nasur, CEO-HSBC Bank, 777 E Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Case 98-27912-NLW Doc 149 Filed 09/15/98 Entered 09/15/98 16:51:00 Desc Final Fee Application for the Period June 24 1998 through August 5 1998 Page 1 of 40

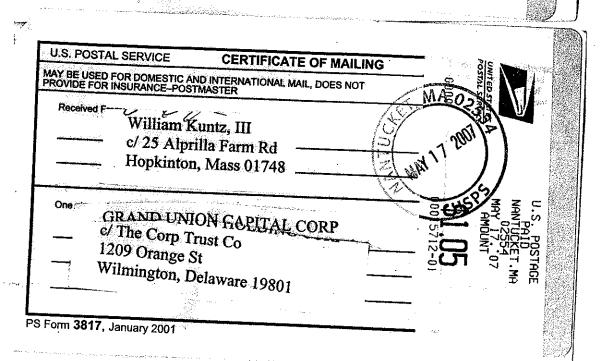
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSRY

DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
ATTORNEY FEE APPLICATION COVER SHEET

CHAPTER: CASE NO. : IN RE: The Grand Union Company 98-27912 UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY. COMPLETION OF THIS FORM CONSTITUTES A CERTIFICATION (MM) RETENTION ORDERS ATTACHED CASE FILED; CLIENT: APPLICANT: Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP The Grand Union Company June 24, 1998 78

SECTION I

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THE GRAND UNION CO. v. AMERICE

United States District Court, D. New Jersey

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June 10, 2005.

The Grand Union Co.

V.

Americe, Inc.

The opinion of the court was delivered by: WILLIAM J. MARTINI, District Judge

LETTER OPINION

Dear Counsel:

This matter comes before the Court on The Grand Union Company's ("Grand Union") motion pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 59 and 60 and Local Civil Rule 7.1(g) for reconsideration of the Court's April 18, 2005 Order dismissing Grand Union's bankruptcy appeal for want of prosecution. For the reasons set forth below, the motion is DENIED.

BACKGROUND

Bankruptcy Judge Novalyn L. Winfield entered an Order on August 6, 2004 that, among other things, denied bankruptcy debtor Grand Union's motion for summary judgment and granted Americe, Inc. ("America") leave to file an administrative claim request. Six days later, on August 12, 2004, Grand Union, through counsel Ravin Greenberg P.C. ("Ravin Greenberg") and Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP ("Weil Gotshal"), filed a notice of appeal and shortly thereafter (on August 23, 2004) filed a designation of items to be included in the record and statement of issues to be presented on appeal pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 8006. The bankruptcy court transmitted these filings to this Court on November 17, 2004. Although Grand Union was required by rule to submit appellate briefs to this Court within fifteen days of its appeal having been docketed, Fed.R. Bankr. P. 8009(a)(1), the notation of this transmission on the docket indicates that Grand Union was given until December 27, 2004. Despite this generous briefing schedule, Grand Union never filed any appellate brief. This Court exercised its discretion and dismissed Grand Union's appeal by Order dated April 18, 2005 for want of prosecution.

Counsel for Grand Union? specifically, Ravin Greenberg, not Well Gotshal? now asks the Court to reconsider this dismissal on the ground that Grand Union's failure to submit any appellate brief was attributable to counsel's "mistake and excusable neglect." (See Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion for Reconsideration [hereinafter "App. Br."].) Specifically, counsel for Grand Union points out that the attorney who was primarily in charge of handling Grand Union's appeal, Allan Harris ("Mr. Harris") of Ravin Greenberg, left the firm December 31, 2004 and that "[i]t was only after [Mr. Harris] left, much past the deadline set forth in Rule 8009, that [Howard S. Greenberg ("Mr. Greenberg"), also of Ravin Greenberg] became aware that a brief had not been filed." (See Cert. of Howard S. Greenberg? 10.) Because the December 27, 2004 deadline ran several days before Mr. Harris left Ravin Greenberg, counsel for Grand Union also notes that "[d]uring the time of filing of the appeal, several complications made it difficult for [Ravin Greenberg] to file a brief on Appellant's behalf, and to proceed with the appeal." (Id. ? 8.)

ANALYSIS

Although dismissal of bankruptcy appeals for want of prosecution is discretionary, courts must at least consider less severe sanctions for a litigant's failure to prosecute its case. See Jewelcor, Inc. v. Asia Commercial Co., Ltd., 11 F.3d 394, 397 (3d Cir. 1993). Counsel for Grand Union argues, therefore, that this Court, rather than dismissing Grand Union's appeal for want of prosecution, should have resorted to the less severe sanction of either issuing an Order to Show Cause setting forth an expedited briefing schedule or, instead, simply issuing

another briefing schedule. (See App. Br. at 4.) The Court fails to see how giving appellant additional time to submit an appellate brief which at the time of dismissal was already almost four months late is an effective "sanction." Indeed, that would be no sanction at all.

The Court can discern no other effective sanction for failure to submit an appellate brief. As this Court has already explained, the bankruptcy rules require appellant to file a brief with this Court within fifteen days of an appeal having been docketed. Fed.R.Bankr.P. 8009(a)(1). The purpose of the briefing schedule in Bankruptcy Rule 8009 is to provide for the expeditious resolution of bankruptcy proceedings. See Jewelcor, 11 F.3d at 397. It is clear that the purpose of the rule would be completely thwarted were the Court to allow Grand Union to delay indefinitely the filing of its appellate brief, without which the Court cannot even begin to review the merits of its appeal.

Grand Union's failure to prosecute its appeal is the result of its own neglect. Indeed, Ravin Greenberg acknowledges as much. (See App. Br. at 4.) Unable to dispute that it had notice of the December 27, 2004 deadline, Ravin Greenberg offers only the vague excuse that "several complications made it difficult for [Ravin Greenberg] to file a brief on Appellant's behalf." This neglect is all the more inexplicable considering that Grand Union appears to have been represented in bankruptcy proceedings not by one but in fact by two different law firms, the other? Weil Gotshal? being known for the strength of its bankruptcy practice. (See Notice of Appeal dated Aug. 12, 2004).

Finally, there is evidence suggesting that Grand Union's failure to prosecute its appeal simply reflects its history of proceeding in a dilatory manner. That is, during the bankruptcy court's October 4, 2004 telephone conference with counsel for Americe and with Ravin Greenberg regarding, among other things, the instant appeal, Judge Winfield stated: "I actually find this issue of appeal a little bit frustrating. [Grand Union] has had an astonishing disinclination to try this case. It's been difficult to get this to final conclusions. . . . I'm thred of fooling around. . . . [I] implore both parties to act with all due speed to get [Grand Union's appeal] before the district court and adjudicated. . . . This is an old adversary and it shouldn't hang around." (Transcript of October 4, 2004 Telephone Status Conference before Honorable Novalyn L. Winfield at 8:6 ? 11, 10:22 ? 24, 11:4 ? 5.) In response to Judge Winfield's request that Grand Union diligently prosecute its appeal, Mr. Greenberg, who now asks the Court to excuse Grand Union's failure to file any appellate brief because the Ravin Greenberg attorney primarily handling Grand Union's bankruptcy case left the firm four days after the December 27, 2004, stated: "We're trying to, Your Honor." (Id. at 11:3.) Grand Union nevertheless failed to prosecute its appeal despite Mr. Greenberg's representation to Judge Winfield that it would do so with all due speed.

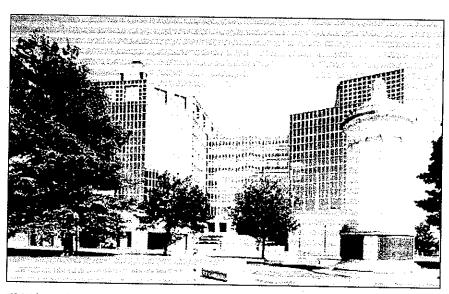
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Grand Union's motion for reconsideration of the Court's April 18, 2005 Order dismissing Grand Union's bankruptcy appeal for want of prosecution is DENIED.

An appropriate Order accompanies this Letter Opinion.

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695 E Main Ave., the site of the former GenRe building that's owned by Lehman Brothers, will be put up for sale after being vacant for two years amid Lehman's bankruptcy. Photo: Contributed Photo / CT

18 Isr. L. Rev. 431 (1983) Relative Wealth of the Parties as a Factor in Tortious Liability, The; Partiente, Gil

THE RELATIVE WEALTH OF THE PARTIES AS A FACTOR IN TORTIOUS LIABILITY*

Gil Pariente**

In its desire to reduce the loss and expense involved in the occurrence of accidents, organized society is likely to consider various factors determining the nature of the rules (whether legal or other) that will guide it in its decision. These factors may include moral faul; (in the accepted meaning of the term), economic fault) or the relative wealth of the parties involved in causing the loss.

The purpose of this article is to examine the third factor, le., relative wealth. By "relative wealth of the parties" we mean the quantity of proporty of monetary value in the hands of each of the parties relative to the aggregate property of the other parties and to the property of each. The parties in question are not necessarily those physically involved in causing the damage but those persons or groups which the rules for allocation of loss regard as potential bearers of the loss.

The motives for considering the relative wealth of the parties may be ut@tarian, political, ideological or moral. The basis of the utilitarian approach lies in recognition of the need to distinguish between the benefit that mankind is likely to derive from property and the value of the property in monetary terms. This conclusion leads to the further conclusion that from a factual point of view the marginal utility, i.e. the increase or reduction in utility per unit of money, that is added to (or taken from) a person's wealth is diminished the greater the sum of that wealth.4 A further assumption is that, given an equal level of wealth, the marginal utility of the money is identical for every person.3 Many scholars dispute

. The author wishes to thank Professor England and Israel Gilad for their kind help and guidance in the preparation of this article.

** 2nd year LLM, student, Faculty of Law, Hobrow University of Jorusalom.

1 The reference is to the failure of the party to prevent the accident at a cost lower than the damage caused, taking into account the probability of its occurring. For a comparative study of moral and economic fault, see R. Posser, "A Theory of Negligence" (1973) 1 Journal of Legal Studies 29-96.

 Marshall, Principles of Economics (London, McMillan, 9th ed., 1920) 94-96.
 Simon, "Interpersonal Welfare Comparisons can be Made and Used for Reduttibution Decisions" (1974) 27 Kyklas 60.

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